AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A phenoxypropylamine compound of the formula (I)

wherein each symbol in the formula means as follows:

a bond represented by a solid line and a dotted line shows a double bond or a single bond;

X is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₈ alkoxy group, an acyloxy group or an oxo group;

provided that when R^t is a group of the following formula (2),

X-should not be a hydrogen atom;

R¹ is a group of the following formula

wherein

Y is O or S,

Ar is optionally substituted aromatic hydrocarbon,

R²——is optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted aromatic heterocyclic group,

R⁵ is optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted aromatic heterocyclic group,

Z is void or -CH₂-, and

R⁶ is hydrogen atom, hydroxy group, acetamido group, carboxyl group, alkoxycarbonyl group, cyano group or C₁-C₈ alkoxy group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group or a halogen atom;

V is =CH₂-; -O-; -S- or the formula -N(R*)- wherein R* is hydrogen atom, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group or optionally substituted aralkyl group;

W is void or -CH2- or -C(-0)-;

R⁷ is a C₁-C₄ hydroxyalkyl group, an acyl group, an optionally substituted saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted fused heterocyclic group, a C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl group or the formula -Q-R⁹

wherein

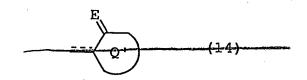
R⁹ is a group of the following formula

or -NH-NH-R15

wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are each independently hydrogen atom, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group, optionally substituted aryl group or alkoxy group, R¹² is hydrogen atom, optionally substituted aryl group, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group, C₁-C₈ alkoxy group or acyl group, and R¹⁵ is hydrogen atom, phenyl group, C₁-C₄ alkyl group, C₁-C₂ halogenated alkyl group, halogen atom, C₂-C₄ alkenyl group, C₁-C₄ hydroxyalkyl group, alkoxyalkyl group, acetamido group, carboxyl group, acyl group, optionally substituted amino group, alkylthio group or cyano group;

provided that when R[†]-is a group of the above formula (2), R[†]-should not be C₁-C₄ hydroxyalkyl group or acyl group, and R^{††}-are not each hydrogen atom at the same time; or

R⁷ and W in combination may form a ring of the following formula



wherein-

E is oxygen atom or sulfur atom, and

Q' is an optionally substituted 4 to 7-membered heterocycle having 1 or 2 hetero atom(s) selected from the group consisting of nitrogen atom and oxygen atom in the ring, in which case V is hydrogen atom; and

Ra, Rb and Rc are each independently a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₈ alkoxy group, a halogen atom, an acyl group, a nitro group or an amino group; provided that when R⁷-and W are bonded to form a ring of the above formula (14), Ra, Rb and Re are not each hydroxy group or C₁-C₈ alkoxy group;

an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) The compound of the claim 1, which is represented by the formula (I)

$$\begin{array}{c}
Ra \\
Rb \overline{U} \\
RC
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
W \\
R^{3} \\
R^{3} \\
R^{1}
\end{array}$$
(1)

wherein each symbol in the formula means as follows:

a bond represented by a solid line and a dotted line shows a double bond;

- X is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₈ alkoxy group, an acyloxy group or an oxo group;
- R¹ is a group of the following formula

Ar

N
$$-N$$
 $N-Z=R^2$
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wherein

Y is O or S,

Ar is optionally substituted benzene or naphthalene,

R² is optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted aromatic heterocyclic group,

R⁵ is optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted aromatic heterocyclic group,

Z is void or -CH₂-, and

R⁶ is hydrogen atom, hydroxy group, acetamido group, carboxyl group, alkoxycarbonyl group, cyano group or C₁-C₈ alkoxy group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group or a halogen atom;

V is =CH2-, -O-, -S- or the formula -N(R*)- wherein R*-is hydrogen atom, C₁-C₁₈-alkyl group or optionally substituted aralkyl group;

W is void $\frac{\text{or -CH}_2 - \text{or -C(-O)-}}{\text{or -C(-O)-}}$

R⁷ is a C₁-C₄ hydroxyalkyl group, an acyl group, an optionally substituted saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic group, an optionally substituted fused heterocyclic group, a C₁-C₄ alkylsulfonyl group or the formula -Q-R⁹

wherein

R⁹ is a group of the following formula

$$-N = R^{12} \qquad -N = R^{12} \qquad -N = R^{12} \qquad (13)$$

or -NH-NH-R15

wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are each independently hydrogen atom, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group, optionally substituted aralkyl group or alkoxy group, R¹² is hydrogen atom, optionally substituted aryl group, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group, C₁-C₈ alkoxy group or acyl group, and R¹⁵ is hydrogen atom, phenyl group, C₁-C₄ alkyl group, C₁-C₂ halogenated alkyl group, halogen atom, C₂-C₄ alkenyl group, C₁-C₄ hydroxyalkyl group, alkoxyalkyl group, acetamido group, carboxyl group, acyl group, optionally substituted amino group, acetamido group, carboxyl group, acyl group, optionally substituted alkyloxy group, alkylthio group or cyano group; and

Ra, Rb and Rc are each independently a hydrogen atom, a C1-C18 alkyl group, a hydroxy group, a

 C_1 - C_8 alkoxy group, a halogen atom, an acyl group, a nitro group or an amino group; provided that when R^t is a group of the above formula (2), R^7 -should not be C_t - C_4 -hydroxyalkyl group or acyl group, and R^{t0} -and R^{t1} -are not each hydrogen atom at the same time; an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) The compound of the claim 2, which is represented by the formula (I) wherein each symbol in the formula means as follows:

a bond represented by a solid line and a dotted line shows a double bond;

X is a hydroxy group;

R¹ is a group of the following formula

$$-N \longrightarrow_{\mathbb{R}^6} Z - \mathbb{R}^5$$
or
$$-(4)$$

wherein

R⁵ is optionally substituted phenyl group or naphthyl group,

Z is void, and

R⁶ is hydrogen atom;

 R^3 is a hydrogen atom or a C_1 - C_4 alkyl group;

V is $\frac{-CH_2}{-}$, $-O-\frac{-S- \text{ or }-N(R^4)-}{-}$ wherein R^4 is hydrogen atom, C_1-C_6 alkyl group or optionally substituted aralkyl group;

W is void;

R⁷ is a group of the following formula

or the formula -CO-R⁹ wherein

- is hydrogen atom, phenyl group, C₁-C₄ alkyl group, C₁-C₂ halogenated alkyl group, halogen atom, C₂-C₄ alkenyl group, C₁-C₄ hydroxyalkyl group, alkoxyalkyl group, alkyloxycarbonyl group, optionally substituted amino group, acetamido group, carboxyl group, acyl group, optionally substituted alkyloxy group, alkylthio group or cyano group, and
- R⁹ is a group of the following formula

wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are each independently hydrogen atom, C_1 - C_{18} alkyl group, optionally substituted aralkyl group or alkoxy group, and R^{12} is hydrogen atom, optionally substituted aryl group, C_1 - C_{18} alkyl group, C_1 - C_8 alkoxy group or acyl group; and

Ra, Rb and Rc are each a hydrogen atom;

an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

4. (Previously Amended) The compound of claim 2 or claim 6, which is represented by the formula (I')

wherein each symbol is as in claim 2, an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 2, which is selected from the group consisting of

(1)1-(4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)benzo(b)furan-2-ylcarbonyl)pyrrolidine,

(2)4-(4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)benzo(b)furan-2-ylcarbonyl)morpholine,

(4)4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)-N,N-dimethylbenzo(b)furan-2-carboxamide,

(12)1-(4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)benzo(b)thiophen-2-ylcarbonyl)pyrrolidine,

(13)4-(4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)benzo(b)thiophen-2-ylcarbonyl)morpholine,

- (15)4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-1-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)-N,N-dimethylbenzo(b)thiophene-2-carboxamide,
- (17)4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)-N,N-dimethylbenzo(b)thiophene-2-carboxamide,
- (20)4-(7-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)benzo(b)furan-2-ylcarbonyl)morpholine,
- (21)7-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)-N,N-dimethylbenzo(b)furan-2-carboxamide,
- (27)4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)-N,N-dimethyl-1H-indole-2-carboxamide,
- (30)4-(2-hydroxy-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)propyloxy)-N,N-dimethyl-1-methylindole-2-carboxamide,
- (35)1-(2-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)benzo(b)furan-4-yloxy)-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)-2-propanol,
- (37)1-(2-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)benzo(b)furan-4-yloxy)-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)-2-propanol,
- (38)1-(2-(5-trifluoromethyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)benzo(b)furan-4-yloxy)-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)-2-propanol,
- (39)1-(2-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)benzo(b)furan-7-yloxy)-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)-2-propanol,
- (42)1-(2-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)-1HI-indole-4-yloxy)-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)-2-propanol,
- (44)1-(2-(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)benzo(b)furan-4-yloxy)-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)-2-propanol,
- (48)1-(2-(5-methyloxazol-2-yl)benzo(b)furan-7-yloxy)-3-(4-(naphthalen-2-yl)piperidino)-2-propanol,
- (81)3-(4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)piperidino)-1-(2-(5-methyloxazol-2-yl)benzo(b)furan-4-yloxy)-2-propanol,

(88)1-(4-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)piperidino)-3-(2-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)benzo(b)furan-4-yloxy)-2-propanol, and

(93)3-(4-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)piperidino)-1-(2-(5-ethyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)benzo(b)furan-4-yloxy)-2-propanol,

an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

6-12. (Deleted)

13. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one member selected from the group consisting of a compound of claim 1, an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a hydrate thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14-16. (Deleted)

17. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula (II)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
Ra & COOR^{14} \\
Rb & R^{3} \\
RC & R^{1}
\end{array}$$

wherein each symbol in the formula means as follows:

X is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxy group, a C₁-C₈ alkoxy

group or an acyloxy group or an oxo group;

R¹ is a group of the following formula

wherein

Y is O or S,

Ar is optionally substituted benzene or naphthalene,

R²— is optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted aromatic heterocyclic group,

R⁵ is optionally substituted aryl group or optionally substituted aromatic heterocyclic group,

Z is void or -CH₂-, and

R⁶ is hydrogen atom, hydroxy group, acetamido group, carboxyl group, alkoxycarbonyl group, cyano group or C₁-C₈ alkoxy group,

provided that when V is -N(R*), R6 should not be hydroxy group;

R³ is a hydrogen atom, a C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group or a halogen atom;

V is $\frac{\text{CH}_2}{\text{-}}$, -O-, -S- or the formula -N(R*)-

wherein

R[‡]——is hydrogen atom, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl group or optionally substituted aralkyl group;

W is void, $-CH_2$ or -C(-O);

 R^{14} is a hydrogen atom or a C_1 - C_4 alkyl; and

Ra, Rb and Rc are each independently a hydrogen atom, a C_1 - C_{18} alkyl group, a hydroxy group, a C_1 - C_8 alkoxy group, a halogen atom, an acyl group, a nitro group or an amino group;

an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

18-20. (Deleted)

21. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 3, which is represented by the formula (I')

wherein each symbol is as in claim $2 \ 3$, an optically active compound thereof, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.

- 22. (New) A method of treating depression, which comprises administering, to a mammal, an effective amount of a compound of claim 1, an optically active compound thereof, pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a hydrate thereof.
 - 23. (New) 2-(4-hydroxybenzo(b)furan-2-yl)-5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole.
 - 24. (New) (S)-2-(4-glycidyloxybenzo(b)furan-2-yl)-5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole.